

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A node ~~which supports enhanced links having an ability to transfer in an MTP network for transferring short messages and~~ long messages which are longer than that supported by current MTP level 2 and up to a maximum length supported by SSCOP, the node comprising:

a first and second destination point codes code, wherein the second destination point code is used to identify the node as one having the ability to transfer the long messages, for connecting to a first link for supporting short messages; and

a second destination point code for connecting to a second link for supporting the long messages.

~~and wherein~~ both the first and second destination point codes are part of ~~a~~ the same MTP network.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A node as claimed in claim 7, further comprising MTP routing tables supporting the enhanced links, wherein the routing tables are structured such that routing between nodes with the second destination point code uses only the enhanced links.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A node as claimed in claim 7, further comprising SCCP translation functions supporting the enhanced links, the SCCP translation functions being engineered such that primary translation is to be logical destinations reachable via the enhanced links and backup translation is to be logical destinations reachable via links based on MTP level 2 if translation results in a physical destination located in a node supporting the enhanced links.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A node ~~which supports enhanced links having an ability to transfer in an MTP network for transferring short messages and~~ long messages which are longer than that supported by current MTP level 2 and up to a maximum length supported by SSCOP, the node comprising:

a first and second destination point codes, code wherein the second destination point code is used to identify the node as one having the ability to transfer the long messages, for connecting to a first link for supporting short messages; and

a second destination point code for connecting to a second link for supporting the long messages,

and wherein both the first and second point codes are part of different MTP networks.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A node as claimed in claim 10, further comprising MTP routing tables supporting the enhanced links, wherein the routing tables are structured such that routing between nodes with the second destination point code uses only the enhanced links.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A node as claimed in claim 10, further comprising SCCP translation functions supporting the enhanced links, the SCCP translation functions being engineered such that primary translation is to be logical destinations reachable via the enhanced links and backup translation is to be logical destinations reachable via links based on MTP level 2 if translation results in a physical destination located in a node supporting the enhanced links.
